

INTRODUCTION.

- A. I believe there to be at least seven reasons why everyone should be baptized.
- B. These seven reasons will also show the necessity of baptism, by immersion, for the remission of sins.

I. IT IS COMMANDED.

- A. "And he commanded them to be baptized" (Ac. 10:48).
- B. Obedience to divine commands is essential. Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him (Heb. 5:3,9).
- C. "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have the right to eternal life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14).

II. JESUS CHRIST TAUGHT IT.

- A. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mk. 16 :16).
- B. We must heed what Christ taught.
- C. "Therefore whosoever hearth these things of mine, and doeth them, I will liken unto him a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Mt. 7:24).

III. THE APOSTLES PREACHED IT.

- A. When Paul preached at Corinth "Many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized."
- B. Peter told the Jews on Pentecost, "Repent and be baptized everyone one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Ac. 2:38).

IV. IT IS AN ACT OF FAITH.

- A. "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, Who, hath raised him from the dead" (Col. 2:12).
- B. Faith must work through love to avail (Gal. 5:6).
- C. We show 'Our faith in God when we submit to baptism as His word directs.

V. IT PUTS US INTO THE BODY.

- A. "For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." (1Cor. 12:13).
- B. Since we have been baptized into the body, those who have not been baptized are outside Christ's body, the church.

VI. IT STANDS BETWEEN THE SINNER AND SALVATION.

- A. Ananias told Saul, "And why do you tarry? Arise, and be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on the name of the Lord" (Ac. 22:16).
- B. "The like figure even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1Pet. 3:21).

VII. IT IS THE MEANS OF PUTTING ON CHRIST.

- A. "For you are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:26,27).
- B. Some translations say that we have been clothed with Christ.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

A. Baptism is essential for many reasons:

1. It is commanded,
2. Christ taught it,
3. The apostles preached it,
4. It is an act of faith,
5. It puts us into the body.
6. It stands between the sinner and salvation.
7. It is the means of putting on Christ.

B. How many have put on Christ ?

Answer: As many as have been baptized into Christ; no more, no less.

C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.